

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 United States Patent and Trademark
 Office
 Box PCT
 Washington, D.C.20231
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 16 March 2000 (16.03.00)	Applicant's or agent's file reference C99062
International application No. PCT/AU99/00591	Priority date (day/month/year) 21 July 1998 (21.07.98)
International filing date (day/month/year) 21 July 1999 (21.07.99)	
Applicant SAINTY, Wayne, G.	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
 17 February 2000 (17.02.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:

2. The election ☒ was
☐ was not

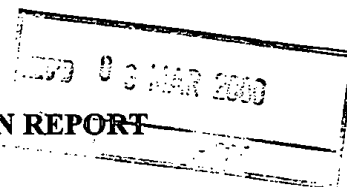
made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer Juan Cruz Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference C99062	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416).
International application No. PCT/AU99/00591	International filing date (day/month/year) 21 July 1999	Priority Date (day/month/year) 21 July 1998
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC Int. Cl. ⁷ H01J 27/02, 37/08, 37/20		
Applicant SAINTECH PTY LIMITED		

1.	This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of 3 sheets, including this cover sheet. <input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT). These annexes consist of a total of sheet(s).
3.	3. This report contains indications relating to the following items: I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 17 February 2000	Date of completion of the report 23 February 2000
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929	Authorized Officer F.C. PEARSON Telephone No. (02) 6283 2195

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**1. Statement**

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-18	YES
	Claims	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims 1-18	YES
	Claims	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims 1-18	YES
	Claims	NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)**Novelty (N) and Inventive Step (IS):**

The independent claims are claims 1 and 14. The dependent claims each add additional features.

Claims 1 and 14 are both directed to an ion source with means for expelling ions created in an ionisation region. In claim 1 an ionisable gas is introduced near a region of maximum electron flux while in claim 14 a part of an exposed surface of an anode comprises an electrically conductive non-oxidising material. These are aspects of the same invention.

None of claims 1-18 are disclosed in the prior art and therefore the claims are novel and inventive.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU 99/00591

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTERInt Cl⁶: H01J 27/02, 37/08, 37/20

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC: H01J 27/02, 37/08, 37/20

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

AU: IPC AS ABOVE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	GB 2295268 A (KABUSHIKI KAISHA TOSHIBA) 22 May 1996. See abstract and page 16 line 24 - page 17 line 15	1-18
A	EP 0249658 A (HITACHI LTD) 23 December 1987 See abstract and column 3 line 19-20	1-18
A	US 4135094 A (HULL) 16 January 1979. See column 3 line 14	1-18

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 September 1999

Date of mailing of the international search report

28 SEP 1999

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU 99/00591

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4760262 A (SAMPAYAN) 26 July 1988. See column 3 lines 11-12 and lines 34-48.	1-18
A	US 4862032 A (KAUFMAN) 29 August 1989. See abstract.	1-13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU 99/00591

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report				Patent Family Member			
GB	2295268	US	5640020	US	5656820		
EP	249658	JP	62296332	US	4847476		
US	4135094	CA	1107234	EP	586	IT	1097553
		JP	54034890				
US	4760262	CN	1030327	EP	291185	JP	63308854
US	4862032	EP	265365	JP	63108646	CA	1268864
END OF ANNEX							



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